GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:628
ANSWERED ON:10.05.2005
REVIEW OF NATIONAL CURRICULUM FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION
Badiga Shri Ramakrishna;Ponnuswamy Shri E.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT) has initiated talks with rural teachers to review National curriculum framework for school education;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives thereof; and

(c) the steps being taken to encourage participation of teachers having different backgrounds, cultures and languages with a view to incorporating the national ethos in the curriculum?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH)

(a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the Sabha.

THE STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN PARTS (a) to (c) OF THE REPLY TO LOK SABHA STARRED QUESTION NO. 628 BY SHRI E. PONNUSWAMY AND SHRI BADIGA RAMAKRISHNA REGARDING REVIEW OF NATIONAL CURRICULUM FOR SCHOOL EDUCATION DUE FOR ANSWER ON THE 10TH MAY, 2005.

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The NCERT organized a consultation with teachers from rural areas across the country from 9-12th April, 2005. The major concern of the National Curriculum Framework review is the urgent need to make school education more effective in rural areas where the majority of India`s children live. The importance of addressing the concerns of the rural child has become all the more sharp on account of the Constitutional Amendment making elementary education a fundamental right of every child. The objective of consultation with teachers serving in rural areas was to provide the NCERT with insight to improve the decision making process involved in the revision of syllabi, preparation of new textbooks based on the Revised National Curriculum Framework for School Education, and redesigning of teacher manuals and training programmes.

(c) The consultation with teachers was woven around specific issues including the Challenge of Rural Education, Systemic Reforms in Education, Evaluation and Examination, Art, Music, Dance and Theatre in Education. Teachers were invited from different states, including Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Kerala, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Haryana, Chandigarh, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, Orissa, Sikkim, Assam, Manipur and Andaman & Nicobar Islands,, The NCERT hopes to keep up the interaction with teachers by organizing periodic consultations with them on a variety of curricular issues. All these steps have been taken for incorporation of the national ethos in the National Curriculum Framework which is presently under review.